

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2952

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. LAND AND INTERESTS OF THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan (including any agent or instrumentality of the Tribe) (referred to in this section as the “Tribe”), may transfer, lease, encumber, or otherwise convey, without further authorization or approval, fee simple land owned by the Tribe.

(b) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section is intended to authorize the Tribe to sell any lands that are held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe.

**COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Committee amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

H.R. 2952

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**SECTION 1. LAND AND INTERESTS OF THE SAGINAW CHIPPEWA INDIAN TRIBE OF MICHIGAN.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan (including any agent or instrumentality of the Tribe) (referred to in this section as the “Tribe”), may transfer, lease, encumber, or otherwise convey, without further authorization or approval, all or any part of the Tribe’s interest in any real property that is not held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe.

(b) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this section is intended to authorize the Tribe to transfer, lease, encumber, or otherwise convey, any lands, or any interest in any lands, that are held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Tribe.

(c) LIABILITY.—The United States shall not be held liable to any party (including the Tribe or any agent or instrumentality of the Tribe) for any term of, or any loss resulting from the term of any transfer, lease, encumbrance, or conveyance of land made pursuant to this Act unless the United States or an agent or instrumentality of the United States is a party to the transaction or the United States would be liable pursuant to any other provision of law. This subsection shall not apply to land transferred or conveyed by the Tribe to the United States to be held in trust for the benefit of the Tribe.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

The committee amendment was agreed to.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, this legislation is similar to the bill we just considered in that it also deals with an exemption from the Non-Intercourse Act.

Our colleague, Representative DALE KILDEE, introduced this measure to exempt the conveyance of non-trust lands made by Tribe located in Michigan. In this particular case, the law is preventing this Tribe from fully engaging in non-gaming economic development. The pending measure is necessary so that the Tribe can sell fee lands bought for investment purposes and to otherwise engage in real estate investment.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**PECHANGA BAND OF LUISENO MISSION INDIANS LAND TRANSFER ACT OF 2007**

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2963) to transfer certain land in Riverside County, California, and San Diego County, California, from the Bureau of Land Management to the United States to be held in trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2963

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the “Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2007”.

**SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF LAND IN TRUST FOR PECHANGA BAND OF LUISENO MISSION INDIANS.**

(a) TRANSFER AND ADMINISTRATION.—

(1) TRANSFER.—Effective on the date of the enactment of this Act and subject to valid existing rights, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the Federal lands described in subsection (b) (including all improvements thereon, appurtenances thereto, and rights to all minerals thereon or therein, including oil and gas, water, and related resources) shall be held by the United States in trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, a federally recognized Indian tribe. Such transfer shall not include the 12.82 acres of lands more or less, including the facilities, improvements, and appurtenances associated with the existing 230 kV transmission line in San Diego County and its 300 foot corridor, more particularly described as a portion of sec. 6, T. 9 S., R. 2 W., San Bernardino Base and Meridian, which shall be sold by the Bureau of Land Management for fair market value to San Diego Gas & Electric Company not later than 30 days after the completion of the cadastral survey described in subsection (c) and the appraisal described in subsection (d).

(2) ADMINISTRATION.—The land transferred under paragraph (1) shall be part of the Pechanga Indian Reservation and administered in accordance with—

(A) the laws and regulations generally applicable to property held in trust by the United States for an Indian tribe; and

(B) a memorandum of understanding entered into between the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

(b) DESCRIPTION OF LAND.—The lands referred to in subsection (a) consist of approximately 1,178 acres in Riverside County, California, and San Diego County, California, as referenced on the map titled, “H.R. 28, the Pechanga Land Transfer Act” and dated January 12, 2007, which, before the transfer under such subsection, were administered by the Bureau of Land Management and are more particularly described as follows:

(1) Sections 24, 29, 31, and 32 of township 8 south, range 2 west, San Bernardino base and meridian.

(2) Section 6 of township 9 south, range 2 west, lots 2, 3, 5 and 6, San Bernardino Base and Meridian.

(3) Mineral Survey 3540, section 22 of township 5 south, range 4 west, San Bernardino base and meridian.

(c) SURVEY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Office of Cadastral Survey of the Bureau of Land Management shall complete a survey of the lands transferred and to be sold under subsection (a) for the purpose of establishing the boundaries of the lands.

(d) CONVEYANCE OF UTILITY CORRIDOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall convey to the San Diego Gas & Electric Company all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to the utility corridor upon—

(A) the completion of the survey required under subsection (c);

(B) the receipt by the Secretary of all rents and other fees that may be due to the United States for use of the utility corridor, if any; and

(C) the receipt of payment by United States from the San Diego Gas & Electric Company of consideration in an amount equal to the fair market value of the utility corridor, as determined by an appraisal conducted under paragraph (2).

(2) APPRAISAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the survey of the utility corridor is completed under subsection (c), the Secretary shall complete an appraisal of the utility corridor.

(B) APPLICABLE LAW.—The appraisal under subparagraph (A) shall be conducted in accordance with—

(i) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions; and

(ii) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(3) COSTS.—The San Diego Gas & Electric Company shall pay the costs of carrying out the conveyance of the utility corridor under paragraph (1), including any associated survey and appraisal costs.

(4) DISPOSITION OF PROCEEDS.—The Secretary shall deposit any amounts received under paragraph (1)(C) of this section in the Federal Land Disposal Account established under section 206(a) of the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (43 U.S.C. 2305(a)).

(e) MAP ON FILE.—The map referred to in subsection (b) shall be on file in the appropriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management.

(f) LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

(1) PUBLICATION.—On approval of the survey completed under subsection (c) by the duly elected tribal council of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Register—

(A) a legal description of the boundary lines; and

(B) legal description of the lands transferred under subsection (a).

(2) EFFECT.—Beginning on the date on which the legal descriptions are published under paragraph (1), such legal descriptions shall be the official legal descriptions of the boundary lines and the lands transferred under subsection (a).

(g) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act shall—

(1) enlarge, impair, or otherwise affect any right or claim of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians to any land or interest in land that is in existence before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(2) affect any water right of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians in existence before the date of the enactment of this Act; or

(3) terminate any right-of-way or right-of-use issued, granted, or permitted before the date of enactment of this Act.

(h) RESTRICTED USE OF TRANSFERRED LANDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The lands transferred under subsection (a) may be used only for the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources thereon.

(2) NO ROADS.—There shall be no roads other than for maintenance purposes constructed on the lands transferred under subsection (a).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, preserving tribal cultures is a fundamental aspect of the United States' trust responsibility to Indian tribes and is key to the survival of Native America. The Federal government can begin to meet this responsibility by transferring land that is an integral part of a tribe's culture to the tribe. This measure does just that.

Introduced by my friend from the other side of the aisle, Representative DARRELL ISSA, this measure would transfer land administered by the Bureau of Land Management to be held in trust for the Pechanga Band in California. The land contains sites and plants integral to the Tribe's culture and religion.

Because of the importance of the land to the cultural survival of the Tribe, the legislation requires that the land may only be used for the protection, preservation, and maintenance of archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources. Only maintenance roads may be constructed and the land must be administered in accordance with a memorandum of understanding between the Tribe and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

The pending measure would also transfer approximately 12 acres to the San Diego Gas and Electric Company, which has an unauthorized electric line on part of the land. The land will be transferred only upon payment of fair market value for the land, plus payment for the past unauthorized use of the land.

Last Congress, a similar measure passed the House, and I would note that this measure is supported by the City of Temecula, and the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### WAIVING APPLICATION OF INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT TO PROPERTY TRANSFERRED TO CERTAIN INDIAN TRIBES IN OREGON

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the imme-

diately consideration in the House of the Senate bill (S. 375) to waive application of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to a specific parcel of real property transferred by the United States to 2 Indian tribes in the State of Oregon, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 375

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. FINDINGS.

With respect to the parcel of real property in Marion County, Oregon, deeded by the United States to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon by quitclaim deed dated June 18, 2002, and recorded in the public records of Marion County on June 19, 2002, Congress finds that—

(1) the parcel of land described in the quitclaim deed, comprising approximately 19.86 acres of land originally used as part of the Chemawa Indian School, was transferred by the United States in 1973 and 1974 to the State of Oregon for use for highway and associated road projects;

(2) Interstate Route 5 and the Salem Parkway were completed, and in 1988 the Oregon Department of Transportation deeded the remaining acreage of the parcel back to the United States;

(3) the United States could no longer use the returned acreage for the administration of Indian affairs, and determined it would be most appropriate to transfer the property to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon;

(4) on request of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, the United States transferred the parcel jointly to the Tribes for economic development and other purposes under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.);

(5) the transfer of the parcel was memorialized by the United States in 2 documents, including—

(A) an agreement titled "Agreement for Transfer of Federally Owned Buildings, Improvements, Facilities and/or Land from the United States of America the [sic] Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Tribe [sic] of Oregon", dated June 21, 2001; and

(B) a quitclaim deed dated June 18, 2002, and recorded in the public records of Marion County, Oregon, on June 19, 2002 (reel 1959, page 84);

(6) use of the parcel by Tribes for economic development purposes is consistent with the intent and language of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) and other Federal Indian law—

(A) to encourage tribal economic development; and

(B) to promote economic self-sufficiency for Indian tribes;

(7) the United States does not desire the return of the parcel and does not intend under any circumstances to take action

under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) or any other legal authority to seek the return of the parcel; and

(8) in reliance on this intent, the Tribes have committed over \$2,500,000 to infrastructure improvements to the parcel, including roads and sewer and water systems, and have approved plans to further develop the parcel for economic purposes, the realization of which is dependent on the ability of the Tribes to secure conventional financing.

#### SEC. 2. WAIVER OF APPLICATION OF INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT.

(a) NONAPPLICATION OF LAW.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) shall not apply to the transfer of the parcel of real property in Marion County, Oregon, deeded by the United States to the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon by quitclaim deed dated June 18, 2002, and recorded in the public records of Marion County on June 19, 2002.

(b) NEW DEED.—The Secretary of the Interior shall issue a new deed to the Tribes to the parcel described in subsection (a) that shall not include—

(1) any restriction on the right to alienate the parcel; or

(2) any reference to any provision of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.).

(c) PROHIBITION ON GAMING.—Class II gaming and class III gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) shall not be conducted on the parcel described in subsection (a).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act has frequently been hailed as one of the most important pieces of Federal Indian legislation. Despite the success of this law, in this instance, the law is impeding two Tribes located in Oregon and their efforts to engage in non-gaming economic development.

In this case, the Secretary of the Interior transferred approximately 20 acres of land to these tribes via a quitclaim deed. But because it was transferred pursuant to the Indian Self-Determination Act, it contains a reversionary clause. This clause requires the land to revert back to the United States if the land is not used for economic development purposes. Although the Tribes intend to use the land for economic development purposes, they are unable to obtain conventional financing because of the reversionary clause.

Senator SMITH of Oregon introduced S. 375 to address this issue and our colleague Representative DARLENE HOOLEY is the sponsor of an identical measure in this body. The legislation simply directs the Secretary of the Interior to reissue a quitclaim deed that is not subject to the Indian Self-Determination Act.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### ELLSINORE VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT WASTEWATER AND RECYCLED WATER FACILITIES ACT OF 2007

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration in the House of the